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"It cost us 650,000 lives of young men to get rid of slavery. I saw not long ago in Maryland one hundred and fifty acres of these young men. There are some 12,000 acres filled with them on the fields of the South. And this number, almost a million, North and South, was the best that the nation could bring. North and South alike, the men were in dead earnest, each believing that his view of State rights and of national authority was founded on a solid rock of righteousness and fair play. North and South, the nation was impoverished by the loss. The gaps they left are filled to all appearance. There are relatively few of us left today in whose hearts the scars of forty years ago are still unhealed. But a new generation has grown up of men and women born since the war. They have taken the nation's problems into their hands; but theirs are hands not so strong or so clean as though the men that are stood shoulder to shoulder with the men that might have been. The men that died had better stuff in them than the father of the average men of today.

"Those States which lost most of their strong young blood, as Virginia, Louisiana, the Carolinas, will not gain the ground they lost, not for centuries, perhaps never.

"Dr. Venable, president of the University of North Carolina, told me not long ago that one-half the alumni of that college up to 1865 were in the Civil War. One-third of these were slain. We can never measure our actual loss nor determine how far the men that are fall short of the men that might have been.

"The same motive, the same lesson, lasts through all ages, and it finds keen expression in the words of the wisest man of our early national history, Benjamin Franklin, 'Wars are not paid for in war time: the bill comes later.'"

Germany's Hope in This Country.

The following from the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of recent date should appeal to every patriotic citizen of the United States. After an elaborate plea that something be done at once to overcome the great evils of militarism, the paper continues:

"It is only by thoroughly understanding all its difficulties that we can reach the solution of this question (of armaments), which so radically touches the destiny of all peoples. Something has already been accomplished along this line; but the great question has been gradually minimized. In the first place, the energetic demand for disarmament. This was followed by a demand not to increase armaments, and the most recent proposal comes from Mr. Churchill for a pause in armaments during the short space of one year. In the period of their most strained relations, Germany and England agreed to notify each other of their respective naval armaments; and while this agreement is insignificant when considered in connection with the whole question of armaments, it has nevertheless contributed to strengthen mutual confidence. England has consistently taken the lead in this matter. At the Second Hague Conference, on August 17, 1907, it declared itself ready 'to communicate yearly to all nations which would do likewise the plans for the construction and

the costs of all new warships.' This exchange of information was intended to facilitate the further exchange of views concerning the reduction in armaments which the nations might mutually agree upon. Even after this offer had failed to elicit favorable action, England still continued to make other proposals of a similar character, the last of which was for a pause in armaments for one year. These efforts have scored a success, as may be judged from the declaration of Tirpitz, according to which Germany could consent to accept a ratio of 16 to 10 for the number of battleships. But this declaration is not an agreement; and it is quite evident that the proposal not to build new battleships for the period of one year, which would not be a solution of the main question, will not lead to really tangible results. Occasional declarations of this nature, though important in themselves as marking little steps in advance, cannot, however, radically change the general course of the armament fever. We must resort to more consistent, more general and heroic measures, similar to those set forth in the Czar's manifesto. There is but one way by which the peoples can be relieved of their heavy burdens; the governments must resolve to call an *International Conference on Armaments* to discuss measures that will call a halt in armaments.

"While renewing this proposal with earnestness and emphasis, we are not unaware of the great difficulties which loom up against it. But we speak in behalf of the oppressed peoples, whose appeal for relief demands a hearing. One government must of necessity take the initiative in bringing about such a conference; it must be a government which, as a matter of course, shall be proof against suspicion of representing the cause of special interests. We should almost be inclined to think that the Czar might take this initiative and thus give renewed evidence of his love for peace; but the fate visited upon his proposals of 1898 and the political changes which have taken place since that time lead us to believe that this cannot happen. England, France, and Germany, one for one reason and another for another reason, would not be free from suspicion, and their cautious governments would not want to take a single step that might possibly lead to results different from those contemplated. Under existing circumstances, there is only one government which could render this service to the nations and earn their gratitude—that of the United States. Upon assuming his present responsibilities, President Wilson gave expression to noble and manly sentiments; here is a field in which he may put them into practical operation! The United States is not directly concerned with European rivalry in armaments. In the United States, on the other hand, every advance toward friendly understanding between nations is greeted with enthusiasm. If the new President were to take the initiative in this matter he would be greeted by the sympathy and support of the best citizens of his country. No time is so appropriate as the present to clear the way for a conference to halt armaments. The nations are waiting. Have we a statesman of discerning judgment, of warm heart and resolute will to satisfy the longings of this generation? If so, let him hear the call of the hundreds of millions of beings who would direct the progress of mankind into the path of genuine peace!"